Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
XXX. 35. Miscellaneous Departments (*b*) Museum and Government Gardens.	2,500	For additional expenditure under Contingencies.
XXXII. XI. Anchal Department Working Expenses.	4,000	For additional expenditure under Contingencies and Packing etc., of Anchal and Service stamps.
	1120 M. E.	
III. 49. Capital Outlay on Buildings (*j*) Lands acquired and leased to the Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore Ltd.	180	For lands acquired and leased to the Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore Ltd.
X. 3. Land Revenue.	15,500	For acquisition of lands for the Agricultural Farm, Perurkada.
7. Taxes on Income.	3,822	For additional staff in connection with the working of the Excess Profit Act.
XIX. 25. Agriculture including Debt Heads—Loan.	25,500	For taking control measures against the "Bunchy Top disease" among plantains.

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Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
XXVII. 30. Public Health and Sanitation.	45,000	For Malaria Control Measures in Neyyattinkara Taluk.
XXXI. 35. Miscellaneous Departments (*b*) Museum and Government Gardens.	10,178-16-0	For the purchase of a pair of Gnus and Bisons.
XXXII. 45. Miscellaneous— I. Petty Establishment—Victoria Jubilee Town Hall.	6,230-19-3	In connection with the upholstering work in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall.

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MOTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA FOR THE ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN THE STATE.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

> "This House respectfully begs to convey its deep sense of sincere gratitude to His Most Gracious Highness the Maharaja for the memorable lead taken in the matter of administering justice by the Maharaja's magnanimous and humanitarian act of abolishing capital punishment in the State and humbly places on record its appreciation for such an unparalleled act of benevolence."

In doing so I do not believe that many words are necessary from me to commend this resolution for the unanimous acceptance of the House. This is a very noble lead taken by our benevolent Sovereign in the realm of administration of justice. This is unparalleled in India. In spite of the wonted boast of the Americans that they have the best democracy in the world, this reform does not find a place there. They have only progressed to the extent of humanising the art of killing by adopting the electric chair. Usually such reforms are brought about by a clamour or agitation but we find our benevolent sovereign doing it most spontaneously for which we are very grateful. Therefore we request you to convey our grateful thanks to His Highness for this benevolent act.

This is not the first boon we are getting from our benign sovereign. There is the famous Temple Entry Proclamation by which the blackest blot of Hinduism *viz.* denying to a section of the people freedom of worship within the temple on account of accident of birth was removed at a stroke. This was a great act of liberation for which the country is grateful. All these *viz* granting one boon after another goes to establish one fact in a most unmistakable manner that the permanent pre-occupation of His Highness is the welfare of his subjects.

Sir, within this short term of 12 years *i. e.* ever since His Highness assumed ruling powers, Travancore has progressed very rapidly, has made vast strides in so many directions, especially in economic prosperity and social reforms. This has been a golden era indeed and has been aptly called "Chitrabdam."

It was a happy day for Travancore when His Highness chose you as his first minister, I mean, of such a strong calibre as your goodself, to translate all his good intentions.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Speaker will confine himself with the point at issue.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: I may explain the relevancy is that we require a man of strong calibre to carry out all the good intentions of the Ruler.

Shakespeare has said "Abuse of greatness is when it disjoins remorse from power" Let us compare what is happening in Travancore to-day; not only there is no disjoining of remorse from power but also there is the fact our benign Ruler is actively commiserative as exemplified by his personal visits to the rural areas in order to grage the quantum of relief to be meted out to the agriculturists.

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When such are the conditions, is it any wonder that people of Travancore have developed the greatest loyalty and regard towards His Highness's person and throne? The spontaneous loyalty of the Travancoreans is unmistakable. There is thus on one side the Ruler anticipating the welfare of the people granting different boons and on the other side the people appreciating the various reforms and developing the highest regard and loyalty.

I submit this constitutes a happy picture which stands out in bold relief to what is obtaining elsewhere in Kaliyuga the predominant features of which are aggrandisement and exploitation of the down-trodden.

Sir, You have often said what is obtaining here is "Responsive Government" as distinct from "Responsible Government"

MR. K. A. MATHEW: What is the relevancy of that in the subject under discussion?

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: I will come to that presently. What I mean is that matters are in improvement over your statement in that His Highness anticipates and grants boons most spontaneously which is better than responsible Government.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: What is the relevancy of that?

PRESIDENT: I would appeal to the honourable member to confine his remarks to such observations as may not invite observations of the kind referred to.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: With due deference to you, Sir, am I not entitled to hold my own opinion as in the same manner about the matter as my honourable friend?

PRESIDENT: In a discussion of this nature let there be grace attached to the Sovereign. See that it is passed unanimously from first to last. Any observation which would invite such interruptions is not good either to the speaker or to the interruptor. While referring to the Sovereign we should not invite controversy.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: Sir, I shall put it this way, that I would prefer the rule of benevolent Ruler to the grant of 100% democracy.

It is said as a result of this global War the basic conception of the very existence of civilisation is going to be reviewed if not actually controverted. This may be as regards the occidental countries who in their mad craze for power and luxury have overstepped beyond limits. It may thus be necessary for them to review the various well accepted theories in order to regain the mental equipoise without which no human happiness can exist. But we here in Travancore in this little corner of the world, in our own tranquil atmosphere, we have peace and contentment and we can continue to cling to the benevolence of His Highness for years together.

With these words I commend the resolution for the unanimous acceptance of the House

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RAJYASEVANIRATA S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram cum Shencotta*): Sir, I rise to second the motion. I am sure the House fully understands and appreciates the spirit underlying the gracious act of H. H. the Maharaja in abolishing capital punishment in the State. To those who have understood the true spirit of the famous Temple Entry Proclamation issued by His Highness the Maharaja, this act has not come as a surprise. All the acts of His Highness are imbued with and permeated by the same all comprehending humanitarian spirit which characterises the Temple Entry Proclamation. In all the measures passed by His Highness there is the same unbounded love displayed towards his subjects.

It is this universal love of His Highness which exhibits itself in various forms at various times. This is one such act. We cannot adequately express our sense of gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja for the gracious act. I have very great pleasure in associating myself with the motion.

MR. C. S. LEKSHMANA AIYAR (*Trivandrum City*): Sir, I support the motion tabled by the honourable member Mr. Pereira. I must say that this is the second instance in which His Highness has demonstrated that once he has the feeling of conviction that it is right a thing is done, it is done while others may not be bold enough to do it. I may say that all the world over it is conceded that punishment ought to be a corrective rather than a retribution for what has been done. After all according to modern conceptions capital punishment is not a form of punishment that should be inflicted at all. Elsewhere, I suppose, people have been too timid to introduce legislation on these lines. But here when His Highness the Maharaja recognised the principle he has carried it to its legitimate limits. This reform ought to make every Travancorean grateful to His Highness for what has been done. With these words I support the motion tabled by honourable member Mr. Pereira.

SRY. T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Sir, I support the motion moved by the honourable member for Commerce and Industries, (South) and in doing so I heartily endorse all the sentiments given expression to by him, in regard to the far reaching nature of the wise and humane steps taken by His Gracious Highness the Maharaja in abolishing capital punishment in the State. Sir, Travancore has been in the vanguard of progress in several notable directions and it has only recently that by one stroke of His Highness' pen by the great epoch-making Temple Entry Proclamation that Travancore attracted world wide attention evoking the warmest and richest commendations from all well-wishers. It is singularly happy that the announcement regarding the abolition of capital punishment was made at a public meeting held in commemoration of that great Proclamation the announcement having been made, in a gracefully worded speech by the Head of the Administration, the President of this House whose name will always be associated with these momentous measures of wise and far sighted statesman-ship. I have very great pleasure, and I deem it a very great privilege to support the motion.

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MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : Sir, on behalf of the party to which I have the honour to belong, I have very great pleasure to support the motion that is tabled in this House. The abolition of capital punishment by His Highness is a gracious act quite in keeping with the illustrious traditions of the Royal house of Travancore. It recognises the sanctity of human life and as such deserves the gratitude of every human being. That being the case, I respectfully associate myself with the sentiments sought to be expressed by the motion tabled in this House and I respectfully support the same.

MR. K. G. KESAVAN NAIR (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*) : Sir, I respectfully associate myself with all the things that have been said both by the mover and others who supported the motion. His Highness has made Travancore history memorable by the Temple Entry Proclamation. The present great reform is yet another instance in which His Highness has made his name memorable to the future generations. It has been said by some critics of Western countries that if capital punishment is abolished the crimes would be on the increase. But our experience has been otherwise. Here in this State the Law was that no woman or Brahmin should be hanged in any case. Our experience has been that Brahmins as well as females of this country have committed only comparatively less crimes which would warrant capital punishment. This is yet another instance by which we can be confident that the head of the administration, when he is conscious of the fact that the country is in the fulness of time ready to receive further reforms, would not hesitate to advise His Highness to introduce such reforms. With these words I support the motion.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*) : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഹൃദയപൂർവ്വം അനുമോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു കല്പിച്ച പ്രസ്ഥാപ്പെട്ടത്തിട്ടുള്ള ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശന വിളംബരം കൊണ്ടു തിരുമനസ്സു സകല പ്രജകളേയും, അതായതു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള ആബാലവൃദ്ധം ജനങ്ങളേയും ഉദ്ധരിക്കുകയും, അവരുടെ ഹൃദയപൂർവ്വമായ ആരാധനയുടെ പാത്രീഭൂതനാകയും ചെയ്ത കാരുണ്യപൂർവ്വമായ ഒരു വിളംബരമാണതു്.

ഇങ്ങനെ പ്രജകളുടെ നിത്യാരാധനയുടെ സർവ്വഥാ പാത്രീഭൂതനായ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടും അവിടത്തെ ഗവണ്മെൻറും കാരുണ്യപൂർവ്വം ഇപ്പോൾ കല്പിച്ചു തുല്യം ചാർത്തിയ ഈ വിളംബരവും സകലരുടേയും സന്തുഷ്ടിയെ അർഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. എത്രയും സ്മരണീയമായ ഈ വിളംബരത്തിലും മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലേയ്ക്കുണ്ടായ കാരുണ്യത്തെ അനുസ്മരിച്ചു ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹൃദയപൂർവ്വം അനുമോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

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